

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claim 1 and cancel claims 2-8 without prejudice.

1. (Currently amended) A method of producing a bar notch (3) in a side of a side member (1) and a cross member notch (4) on an end of a cross member (2) using an apparatus having a triangular knife head, a guide for slidably supporting said triangular knife head therewithin, said guide being movable in a horizontal direction, a second guide disposed on a table, and a second guide member slidably disposed on said second guide, the method comprising the steps of:

preliminarily shearing or punching said side member (1) at a first depth (d) from a side surface (1') of said side member (1),

preliminarily shearing or punching said cross member (2) at said first depth (d) from a side surface (2') of said cross member (2), and

secondarily shearing or punching said side member (1) at a second depth (D) from said side surface (1') of said side member (1) to produce said bar notch (3) wherein said bar notch (3) includes a plane bottom (5), which is parallel with said side surface (1') in the side member and two equally long, oblique sides (6), which have oppositely direct equal inclinations in relation to the bottom (5) having an angle of less than 90°, and

secondarily shearing or punching said cross member (2) at said second depth (D) from said side surface (2') of said side member (2) to produce said cross member notch (4), wherein the cross member notch has a plane end (7) in a cross member (2) and two inclined sides (8), wherein said first depth (d) of said preliminary shearing or punching of said side member (1) is less than but similarly oriented to said second depth (D) of said secondary shearing or punching of said

side member (1), and wherein said first depth (d) of said preliminary shearing or punching of said cross member (2) is less than but similarly oriented to said second depth (D) of secondary shearing or punching of said cross member (2), whereby said side member can be joined with said cross member by the bar notch (3) fitting into said cross member notch (4).

Claims 2-8 (Canceled).